

SHINING TIME STATION

"PUPPET SCRIPT #4"

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FIRST DRAFT  
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SCENE 1

(SONG -- JESSE JAMES)

SCENE 2

(DISSOLVE [DREAM EFFECT] TO:)

(INT. JUKEBOX BASEMENT)

J.J. (VO):

Tito. Tito. Wake up.

(TITO, IN HIS PAJAMAS, IS TOSSING  
AND TURNING IN HIS BED. J.J.  
[FULLY DRESSED] STANDS OVER HIM)

J.J.:

Up an' at 'em, Tito.  
Rise 'n' shine.

TITO:

J.J.? I had this dream.  
There was a song in it.  
Something about a train.  
I wonder what it meant...

*perhaps begin with a train  
song rather than Jesse James?*

J.J.:

Maybe it foretold the  
future -- Like, "today  
you will play music in a  
railroad station?"

TITO:

Golly. You think so?

J.J.:

But only if you GET OUT  
OF BED!

(J.J. STORMS OUT [VIA ELEVATOR] AS  
TITO JUMPS UP)

TITO:

Right away, boss. I'm on  
the case...

SCENE 3

(INT. JUKEBOX -- DRESSING ROOM)

(J.J. ENTERS FROM ELEVATOR. GRACE,  
DIDI, TEX AND REX ARE UP AND  
DRESSED, PREPARING FOR THE DAY)

GRACE:

Did you boys remember to  
make your beds?

REX:

Aw, Grace, what's the  
point?

TEX:

We're just gonna mess 'em  
up again tonight...

DIDI:

Now, boys...

(TEX AND REX SHAMBLE OFF SCREEN)

J.J.:

Good morning, ladies.  
May I remind you that  
it's show time?

DIDI:

We're on our way, J.J.

GRACE:

If we're late, start  
without us.

(PAUSE)

Just kidding, J.J.

(J.J. LEAVES VIA ELEVATOR)

SCENE 4  
(INT. STATION)

(STS SHOW FOOTAGE -- IF AVAILABLE  
-- OF STATION "OPENING" FOR THE  
DAY... STACY AND/OR BILLY AND/OR  
SCHEMER ARRIVING, AS WELL AS SOME  
PASSENGERS...)

(CONTINUING [OR NEW?] SCENE AS  
SCHEMER DROPS A NICKEL INTO THE  
JUKEBOX)

SCENE 5

(INT. JUKEBOX)

(J.J. WATCHING COIN MAKE ITS WAY  
DOWN CHUTE... PANICKING)

J.J.:

Oh no. On no!  
Somebody's paid for a  
song and the band's not  
here yet! What am I  
gonna do? Tito! Grace!  
Help!

(THE COIN HITS BOTTOM. J.J. IS  
DESPERATE)

(CUT TO:)

(STS SCENE OF ANGRY SCHEMER BANGING  
MACHINE)

(CUT TO:)

(J.J. LOOKING UP AND OUT)

J.J.:

What song has he picked?  
Number 48. "Little Black  
Train." Yikes. Okay,  
here goes nothing...

(J.J. APPROACHES THE STAND-UP MIKE,  
READY TO SING)

(TUNELESS:)

Baba Little Black Train  
have you any wool...

(CUT TO:)

(GRACE [COSTUMED FOR "LITTLE BLACK  
TRAIN"])

GRACE:

Okay, J.J., we'll take it  
from here...

(CUT TO:)

(J.J. DOES DOUBLE TAKE AS WE HEAR  
OPENING BASE NOTES)

SCENE 6

(SONG -- LITTLE BLACK TRAIN)

SCENE 7  
(INT. JUKEBOX)

J.J.:

Well, I hope everybody's  
ready to work, 'cause I  
think we're in for a busy  
day.

TITO:

How's that, J.J.?

J.J.:

Look -- the station's  
full of people -- and  
every one of them is a  
potential jukebox  
customer.

DIDI:

Why the crowds, I wonder.

TEX:

Well, for one thing, it's  
game day.

GRACE:

Game day?

REX:

Baseball game day.

TITO:

Don't tell me Schemer's  
the coach again this  
season...

DIDI:

'Fraid so, Tito. Look.

(STS FOOTAGE FROM FIELD DAY SHOW --  
PITCHING PRACTICE -- ENDING WHEN  
SCHEMER THROWS BALL, HITS JUKEBOX)

SCENE 8

(SONG -- TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL  
GAME)

SCENE 9  
(INT. JUKEBOX)

GRACE:

That was a gas!

DIDI:

That was a blast!

J.J.: "✓

But we're never going to  
get rich playing music  
every time someone hits us  
with a baseball!

TITO:

J.J.'s right, folks.  
Remember, we're  
professionals. We're in  
this for the nickels.

REX:

Well, if you ask me, that  
number needs rehearsing,  
anyhow.

TITO:

Why?

TEX:

We think it would sound  
better as a sing-along.

GRACE:

You maybe, <sup>right</sup> boys. Let's  
try it. <sup>right</sup> Okay, Tito?  
Ready, Didi? ✓

SCENE 10

(SONG -- TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL  
GAME -- SING-ALONG VERSION)

SCENE 11  
(INT. JUKEBOX)

J.J.:

Not bad. Not bad. I'll think about adding that number to our sing-along repertoire. Could be a real money-maker.

DID:

J.J., that reminds me. I've been meaning to ask you. What happens to the money we make -- to all those nickels?

J.J.:

An excellent question, you delightful little drummer-girl. Excellent.

(PAUSE)

Ask Tito.

TITO:

The nickels? I thought you knew, Didi. At the end of every day, I put them all in the bank.

GRACE:

You put 'em in the bank? What bank?

TITO:

What bank? My bank. The First National Bank of Tito. C'mon, I'll show you...

(SOUND OC OF A NICKEL BEING DEPOSITED)

SCENE 11 (CONT'D)

J.J.:

Hold it everyone. We've  
got another paying  
customer. Business  
before pleasure. Places,  
people...

(HE EXAMINES THE COIN AS IT LANDS)

Genuine coin of the  
realm. An authentic five  
cent piece, guaranteed to  
be worth five whole  
pennies. You may hit it,  
Tito.

SCENE 12

(SONG -- THIS TRAIN)

SCENE 13  
(INT. JUKEBOX)

REX:

So, Tito -- how about  
showing us this bank of  
yours, partner?

TEX:

yeah -- how about giving  
us a tour?

TITO:

Sure, fellows, follow  
me... Grace? Didi? You  
coming?

(ANGLE ON GRACE AND DIDI STARING  
"OUT" OF THE JUKEBOX INTO THE  
STATION)

DIDI:

Hold it, guys.  
Something's happening out  
there.

GRACE:

Something's up. Have a  
look...

(J.J., TITO, TEX AND REX JOIN THEM)

J.J.:

What is it? Another  
customer?

GRACE:

No -- sounds like it's  
about that newspaper the  
kids put out, remember?

SCENE 13

(STS "STOP THE PRESS" EXCERPT  
CONTINUING INTO:)

SCENE 14

(SONG -- TENNESSEE CENTRAL NUMBER  
NINE)

SCENE 15  
(INT. JUKEBOX)

GRACE:

Wow -- those kids out there can sure get themselves into some real hassles.

TEX:

Not just the kids, the grown ups, too.

J.J.:

People -- go figure them.

REX:

I'm glad we're puppets.

TITO:

But they're the ones with the nickels... Hey, remember that time they really messed things up?

GRACE:

You mean when the owner of the railroad got so mad?

DIDI:

I thought he might even close the station.

J.J.:

Now that would have been bad for business!

(DISSOLVE [FLASH BACK SPECIAL EFFECT] TO:)

SCENE 16

(FORM STS "ALL'S FAIR" CONTINUING  
INTO:)

SCENE 17

(SONG -- RAILROAD CARS)

SCENE 18  
(INT. JUKEBOX)

J.J.:

I love that song.  
That's what I call a  
great song.

TITO:

What do you like about  
it, J.J.? The  
arrangement?

DIDI:

The beat?

GRACE:

The vocals?

REX & TEX:

The harmonies?

J.J.:

The money. It sure does  
bring in the nickels.  
What do you think --  
would it work as a sing-  
along?

TITO:

Maybe...

GRACE:

We could give it a try...

SCENE 19

(SONG -- RAILROAD CARS -- SING-ALONG  
VERSION)

SCENE 20

(STS STATION INT... FOOTAGE OF DAY  
WINDING DOWN... STACY TIDYING UP,  
KIDS WAVING GOODBYE, SCHEMER  
DREAMING)

SCENE 21  
(INT. JUKEBOX)

(J.J. IS STARING OUT OF THE BOX  
INTO THE STATION)

TITO:

What's happening out in  
the station now, J.J.?

J.J.:

The usual end of the day  
stuff... Stacy and Billy  
working, kids kidding  
around, Schemer  
scheming... You know,  
there's something about  
that guy I really like.

GRACE:

Big surprise.

DIDI:

Remember the time Schemer  
tried to put on his own  
radio show?

TITO:

He was gonna make us  
broadcast stars.

J.J.:

Those were the days...

(DISSOLVE [FLASHBACK EFFECT] TO:

SCENE 22

(STS "ANYBODY THERE" CLIMAX OF  
CHAOS INTO:)

SCENE 23

(SONG -- CHATTANOOGA CHOO-CHOO)

SCENE 24  
(INT. JUKEBOX)

(DIDI LOOKING OUT OF BOX, INTO  
STATION)

DIDI:

Oh, wow! I get it now!

J.J.:

Get what, my little drum  
stick?

DIDI:

I understand what's been  
happening out there all  
day.

J.J.:

Which is...

DIDI:

Oh, it's so sweet --  
they've all been planning  
a surprise party for  
Stacy.

GRACE:

I like parties!

TITO:

I like surprises...

DIDI:

Look...

SCENE 25

(STS "WRONG TRACK" SURPRISE PARTY  
SCENE INTO:)

SCENE 26

(SONG -- SWEET BETSY FROM PIKE)

SCENE 27

(INT. JUKEBOX -- DRESSING ROOM)

(DIDI, GRACE, REX AND TEX TROOP IN,  
COLLAPSE AS "AFTER THE SHOW" [THEY  
ARE STILL DRESSED IN PARTY  
CLOTHES])

TEX:

Whew. I'm bushed.

REX:

Been a long day.

GRACE:

Remember, guys, some  
people have to work for a  
living.

DIDI:

But because we're  
musicians, we get to  
play!

REX:

Good point.

TEX:

i don't get it...

(TITO AND J.J. ENTER WITH COINS --  
THE DAY'S HAUL. THEY SPILL THEM)

TITO:

Careful, J.J.

J.J.:

Watch it, Tito.

TITO:

I'm gonna take these down  
to the bank now. You all  
still want to come see  
it?

SCENE 27 (CONT'D)

ALL:

(AD LIB)

Sure. You bet. And how.  
(etc.)

(ALL HELP CARRY OR OTHERWISE CONVEY  
THE COINS INTO THE ELEVATOR)

SCENE 28

(INT. ELEVATOR)

(TITO DOES HIS IMPRESSION OF AN  
ELEVATOR OPERATOR)

TITO:

Going down? Ground  
floor: hardware,  
sporting goods, sea food.  
Basement: fruits,  
vegetables, sleepwear..  
Sub-basement: First  
National Bank of Tito.  
Watch your step, have a  
nice day.

SCENE 29  
(TITO'S VAULT)

(ALL LEAVE ELEVATOR)

DIDI:

Oh, wow!

GRACE:

That's some bank, Tito.

TITO:

It contains every nickel  
we've ever earned.

TEX:

Boy. We're rich!

REX:

Money can't buy  
happiness, Rex.

(TITO AND J.J. BEGIN DEPOSITING  
COINS...)

TITO:

Okay, J.J. Let's do  
it... You keep count.

J.J.:

One... two... three...

(PAUSE)

Hold it! This isn't a  
nickel. It's... a  
foreign coin of some  
kind.

(ALL GATHER AROUND)

DIDI:

What is it?

SCENE 29 (CONT'D)

GRACE:

(EXAMINING IT)

Looks like it's from...  
Jamaica.

J.J.:

Why, of all the...

(TITO REACTS WITH FLAMBOYANT GRIEF)

TITO:

This is awful! Terrible.

J.J.:

It's a crime!

GRACE:

Lighten up, you guys.  
It's only a nickel.

TITO:

But Grace.... don't you  
see... for a beautiful  
Jamaican coin like this,  
we should have done a  
Jamaican song!

DIDI:

Well, Tito --- it's not  
too late.

TITO:

You're right! Quick!  
Upstairs! Everybody!

(THEY RUSH TO ELEVATOR)

SCENE 30

(FAST MOTION EFFECT INTO ELEVATOR,  
IN IT, OUT OF IT, "ON STAGE".

SCENE 31

(SONG -- JAMAICA FAREWELL)